
From: HJR153
Sent: Wednesday, September 01, 2004 8:13 AM
To: HJR153
Subject: HJR153 - Brent Gaffney

Name: Brent Gaffney
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Utility Type: all

Company Name: All types

Comments: Dear HJR 153 people,

I moved to Virginia last year and had lost most utilities due to the hurricane Isabella. Note: the gas line worked for hot water and it is underground. Fore some reason here in Virginia, the utility lines are not protected by clearing brush or trees from knocking out the lines. Note: it cost money to clear lines each year. I grew up in rural Illinois and the power and telephone lines had brush and trees trimmed back away from reaching the lines. We lost power in Illinois mostly by lightening hitting a transformer or line and the power/telephone were out for a short time. We lost here in Va, the power and telephone lines for 3-7 days. Even the phone company Verizon said to call them that you line was out to get a refund. Funny, hard to call if phone not working. They knew phone lines were down so why not a blanket refund when no service was provide to most customers. Our neighborhood has utilities buried, but outside lines coming into Colony Pines were knocked out. S pend money to get utilities buried, since we are charged in our monthly bills for line or pipe maintenance anyway. Future lines should be buried and existing lines should be cleared of falling trees and other hazards as a better way of doing utility business in Virginia. Pass HJR153 because it is the smart thing, the right thing and we deserve it as tax payers to be treated fairly. Profits in their pockets with lack of service given to us by these utility companies for not clearing the lines is wrong. Make them get underground utilities lines buried for protection and hurry. Not that many poles can stand in 100+ MPH winds and falling trees. Have a nice day and smile. :-)

Thanks

Brent L. Gaffney